GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3737
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001
LOSS OF PRODUCTION OF SALT
M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of salt has suffered a severe set-back in recent devastating earthquake in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the loss of production of salt in terms of quantity; and

(c) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken to help the salt industry and salt producers to overcome the impact of earthquake?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) & (b): The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has estimated the lossof production of common salt and iodized salt, due to the earthquake, at 10 lakh tonnes and 4 lakh tonnes.

(c) The Government of India is operating, through the Office of Salt Commissioner, ascheme for grant of financial assistance to salt works damaged on account of natural calamities, which provides for payment of ex-gratia assistance and rehabilitation loans to the affected salt works in respect of damage caused to the earth work, viz. Reservoirs, condensers, crystallizers, bunds, etc. Committees have been constituted to assess the actual damage caused to the salt works, for grant of necessary ex-gratia assistance/rehabilitation loans, as per the provisions of the said scheme. The Government of Gujarat has also reportedly announce assistance/relief for salt works and a package for damaged salt refineries.